

Bulgaria's Dragonflies

Naturetrek Tour Report

19th – 27th June 2026



Lesser Emperor



Odalisques



Spotted Fritillary



Red-veined Darter

Tour report by Bob Eade



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Bob Eade and Dansko Kutsarov (leaders) with 11 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Friday 19th June

Following our flight to Sofia, from Heathrow, we met up with Dansko and two American clients, as well as our driver for the coming nine days. We left the airport and headed to a lake on the outskirts of the city, where we were able to see many Broad Scarlet, several Black-tailed and White-tailed Skimmers, and Lesser Emperor. However, the highlight for most of us at this first stop was seeing two Little Bitterns flying across the lake.

We then moved a couple of miles to a running river. The river was pretty full this year, after some recent wet weather. However, there were still plenty of Banded Demoiselles on the wing. This demoiselle is a little different to the subspecies we get in the UK, with the banded section of the wing being much broader. There were also lots of Blue Featherlegs here.

We still had time for one more stop on the way to our first hotel in the beautiful village of Koprivshtitsa. At this stop the main target was the rare Ornate Bluet. As we entered the large meadow, we were amazed at the large numbers of Black-veined White butterflies. They were flying all around us as we moved towards the small stream at the far side of the meadow. Fortunately, the Ornate Bluet was located quite quickly, although they were present in very small numbers. We saw around five males and a single female. We were also lucky to spot a Winter Damselfly in the same area. One client then spotted a mating pair of Black-veined Whites on a Hawthorn bush. The male had apparently located the female as she emerged from her pupa, as the empty case was next to the butterflies. With several other species of butterflies seen, it was time to head to the hotel.

Day 2

Saturday 20th June

A pre-breakfast walk around the village of Koprivshtitsa gave us some good views of Serin and Spotted Flycatcher, as well as masses of hirundines. The moth trap, opened before the walk, held a Small Elephant Hawk-moth and Burnished Brass, and several less colourful species.

Our first stop of the day was around an hour away, and on the drive everyone was pleased to see a pair of Montagu's Harriers. It was clear that they had a nest in the area. At the first stop, we had not even left the van when the birdsong hit us. A Great Reed Warbler was singing very loudly around the far side of the lake, and we had Turtle Doves purring and a Golden Oriole calling, a noise we would hear many times over the week. An immaculate Spotted Fritillary was found drying its wings, and a nice Queen of Spain Fritillary was also present, along with Lattice Brown and Scarce Swallowtail. Dragonflies were also emerging, and we found several Southern Darters next to their exuvia. An Eastern Willow Emerald was hanging from a willow, just close enough to photograph. All the time we were at this stop, we were still listening to the birds, which included a Nightingale.

Our lunch stop was by another small river, and here we found some Turkish Goldenrings, Eastern Spectre and Beautiful Demoiselles. This demoiselle was also quite different to the ones we were familiar with in the UK. Butterflies included Sloe Hairstreak, Eastern Knapweed Fritillary and Eastern Festoon.

On the drive to our final stop of the day, we came across a colony of Bee-eaters. The driver quickly stopped the van for us to get better views of the birds. However, the birds were a bit wary, possibly of us, or maybe more of the Booted Eagle which flew over. We got a bonus butterfly in the form of a Balkan Zephyr Blue.

Our final stop of the day was by a mountain stream, where the main target was the Odalisque, a strange damselfly which holds its wings more like a dragonfly. We were really lucky, as we saw several males, as well as a pair in tandem. We also saw several more Eastern Spectres, and the rare Bulgarian Emerald. There were also very showy Red-backed Shrikes and Cirl Buntings here, along with the first Large Tortoiseshell and Little Tiger Blue of the tour. Five Griffon Vultures were also an amazing sight as they soared around, some distance away.

We headed to our next hotel in the town of Krumovgrad, where we were promised the sound of a calling Scops Owl during the night.

Day 3

Sunday 21st June

Our pre-breakfast stroll today took us along the river. We had excellent timing: a superb Black Stork flew in to the river shallows and started fishing. The morning light really showed up the beautiful sheen of its plumage.



Southern Darter



Black-veined Whites



Small Bluetail



Balkan Predatory Bush-cricket

On the drive to our first stop we came across two Spur-thighed Tortoises and the amazing, and very large Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket. Once we had parked the van, we walked along a field with a margin teeming with life. There were lots of Great Banded Graylings and Spotted Fritillaries, grasshoppers and crickets were jumping all around us, and a large mantis was also seen. We headed to a wooded area with a stream running through it. Here we found Balkan Emeralds. There was a pair, with the female egg laying near the bank of the stream. The light was

quite poor in the woodland, so photography was not easy here. However, it was good to see another of our target species.

Our next stop was not much more than a dew pond, but the odonate life around it was fantastic. We quickly located the much sought-after orange teneral form of the Small Bluetail damselfly, as well as Robust Spreadwing. Several mating pairs of the latter species were seen. Over the water, both Black-tailed and White-tailed Skimmers were flying, and a bonus Migrant Spreadwing was also found.

After a superb, relaxing lunch, we headed to another lake, this one with good numbers of Broad Scarlets, as well as Blue-eye and Small Redeye damselflies. A couple of Lesser Emperor also teased us with some close fly-bys. Eventually, those who were trying got some nice photos of them. Good numbers of butterflies were seen here too, and one lucky client found a Starry Pearl, a large and particularly attractive micro moth.

The final stop of the day incorporated an ice cream stop at a petrol station. Our targets in the nearby stream were Blue-eyed and Turkish Goldenrings. However, nobody was expecting a female Blue-eyed Goldenring to join us as we ate. Just as we sat at the picnic bench to eat our ice creams the dragonfly settled on a Yucca-type plant, just feet away from us. We all managed to get photos of this beautiful dragonfly, despite having to hold both a camera and ice cream! From the road bridge over the stream, we then saw more of both the target species, as well as a confiding Hummingbird Hawk-moth. It had been another great day in the glorious Bulgarian countryside.

Day 4

Monday 22nd June

Our pre-breakfast walk today was very good for bird life. After a Lesser Grey Shrike, we saw a small group of Bee-eaters. We then had a pair of Night Herons flying around above us for a few minutes. A pair of close Red-backed Shrikes were next to show, followed by two male Golden Orioles. A Nightingale also appeared for a short while, along with a Green Woodpecker and a fly-over Hoopoe. What a great start to the day it was.

Our first stop today, as we continued to head to southern Bulgaria, was at a small river, where we saw Balkan Emerald, Small Pincertail and Green-eyed Hawker. Fleeting glimpses of Large Tortoiseshell and Camberwell Beauty were a little frustrating, as in both instances the butterflies vanished as soon as they were seen. The best find was of two Spurge Hawk-moth larvae. At the time, we didn't know that we would find several more of these beautifully marked larvae later. We moved to a pair of large lakes, where we were lucky to find a couple of Dark Spreadwings and a Migrant Spreadwing. There were also many other species of damselflies and dragonflies here.

As we headed higher on mountain roads we stopped at a café. Some of us went inside for a coffee or snack, but most of us were scanning the verges to see what we could find. We had Scarce, Purple-shot and a female Purple-edged Copper. We then heard the loud call of a nearby Black Woodpecker, which most of us eventually saw: a rare sight indeed. We then moved on to a beautiful mountain lake with lots of Marsh Orchids and Woodland Ringlets. Black-veined Moths were also very prominent here, but the hoped-for Spearhead Bluet was not seen, so we moved a short distance to another lake, where the damselfly was successfully located. Eastern Large Heath and some lovely Amanda's Blues were also seen here.

Our next hotel was in the glorious countryside near Pamporovo, complete with meadows full of insect life.

Day 5

Tuesday 23rd June

A pre-breakfast search around the hotel grounds was very productive, with our first and only Balkan Copper of the tour. This species has to be one of the most brilliant-looking coppers, and it deserved the admiration it received. The hotel meadows were absolutely fantastic for insect life, and as well as the copper we found both pearl-bordered fritillaries, as well as a couple of Marsh Fritillaries and a brand new Glanville Fritillary. We also had Lewes Wave, Common and Latticed Heath moths, Woodland Ringlet and Eastern Large Heath butterflies, along with countless bush-crickets and grasshoppers. It was difficult to stop for breakfast.

The drive to our first destination was through some gorgeous mountain scenery. Eventually, we arrived at our first destination. The first members of the group were just walking away from the minibus when they spotted a Poplar Admiral on the track. Unfortunately, most of the group missed this beauty, but on our return, the butterfly was back, and several more of the group saw it.

In a small clearing in the woodland, we had the first Silver-studded Blues of the trip, along with a small number of Chequered Skippers. Further along, Pearly Heaths were seen, as well as Mazarine Blue. On top of all this, a Sombre Goldenring was seen hunting.

We then drove a short distance to a look out over the gorge. Here was where we hoped for a view of the much sought-after Wallcreeper. We didn't have to wait too long before the bird was spotted across the other side of the gorge. We had lovely views as it flew a short distance, before floating down, showing its red and grey plumage.

After a superb lunch of fresh trout, and after seeing a young Dipper on the river, we headed off in the direction of our next hotel. With clouds beginning to roll in, we stopped at the edge of the woodland to see what we could find before the rain set in. Here we found two wonderful Wood Tiger moths and a Clouded Buff, along with several Black-veined Moths. It wasn't long before the rain started to fall, however, so we then moved on to our next hotel near Dospat.

Day 6

Wednesday 24th June

The forecast was not in our favour today, with rain expected on and off most of the day. As it was cooler as well, we only found a few insects at roost around the hotel grounds, although just before we left the hotel a Black Hairstreak was a surprise find.

We arrived at our first site with a little sunshine showing, so we walked down the forest track and quickly located several blue butterflies, and more Black-veined Moths. We also saw several Balkan Goldenring dragonflies, and enjoyed the sight of a Red Helleborine and a showy Southern White Admiral. As we were admiring some roosting Lesser Spotted Fritillaries and an Escher's Blue, the rain started to fall. This was not brilliant timing, as we were in a very butterfly-rich meadow. The rain became worse, so we eventually decided to head back to the van and hope for drier conditions away from the mountains.

At the picnic site, the rain had indeed stopped, and sunshine returned, and with it we had clouds of butterflies mud-puddling. Most were Wood Whites and blue butterflies, along with some Sandy Grizzled Skippers and a Scarce Swallowtail. We also saw Eastern Festoon, Clouded Yellow and more Scarce Swallowtails nectaring on

Viper's Bugloss. They were joined by a couple of Hummingbird Hawk-moths and a Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth. It really was a fabulous sight.

After lunch, we drove a short distance to another meadow backing onto woodland. Unfortunately, the weather had once again deteriorated, with heavy clouds building up. However, just before the heavy rain started, a beautiful Yellow-banded Skipper was found at roost, giving us the chance to admire the underwing of this species.

Two more brief stops were had, and we managed to avoid the worst of the weather. At the first, we saw several Banded and Beautiful Demoiselles, a Twin-spot Fritillary, Mallow Skipper and female Small Pincertail. At the second stop, we saw several Little Tiger Blues, a flock of Hawfinches, several Turtle Doves, and then the unusual sight of a female Marsh Harrier being mobbed by a Golden Oriole. We soon arrived at our final hotel at Melnik, for a three-night stay.

Day 7

Thursday 25th June

On this tour, we were to have one day in northern Greece, to visit Lake Kerkini to search for the incredible Bladetail, as well as many other insect and bird species. Before heading to the lake, we searched along the main river, hoping for two clubtail species. Unfortunately, we were not lucky with these species this year, but we did find the enormous Balkan Predatory Bush-cricket. There were also many Mottle-winged Antlions, along with Small Pincertail and a Wart-biter bush-cricket.



Eastern Large Heath



Ornate Bluet



Yellow-banded Skipper



Spurge Hawk-moth larva

Once at the lake, we first tried a meadow around the bank. We quickly located a Bladetail, although it was reluctant to pose well for the cameras, and was quickly off flying again. With some patience, some members of the group

eventually managed to get some photos of this impressive species. At this stop we also saw a Short-toed Snake Eagle and many water birds. Blue-eyed Hawker also performed well, as did another Southern White Admiral.

A brief stop further around the lake gave us our first sighting of Violet Dropwings. One of the two we found often returned to the same perch, allowing us to get some lovely images of it. We also had good views of a hunting Squacco Heron, Dalmatian and Great White Pelicans and other water birds, while listening to singing Great Reed Warblers.

A superb lunch was taken in a nearby village, followed by a short drive to another meadow near the lake. On the way, we saw a pair of Levant Sparrowhawks in the distance, and several Bee-eaters. However, once we had arrived at the meadow, we realised that there were actually big numbers of Bee-eaters in the area, collecting food for their young. Amazing views of these spectacular birds were had as they flew over us. In addition to the Bee-eaters, there were also at least three Hoopoes in the area. One lucky client also managed to photograph a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. Another client spotted a pair of Coypus in the water, and more Spurge Hawk-moth larvae were also found.

Day 8

Friday 26th June

This was our second night in this hotel, and after it was discovered that there were several Golden Orioles clearly nesting in the trees just a short distance away, several members of the group went to see them before breakfast. Although the birds were calling almost constantly, it did need a bit of patience to see them. However, good views were eventually achieved, of both the orioles and a couple of Bee-eaters.

After breakfast, it was just a short drive to our first location, which was a lake at the bottom of a valley. The lake was made for cattle to drink from, but it is now a site that holds a small number of Bladetail. Some of the group did have a brief sighting of one, but our main targets here were the tiny Black Pennant and Violet Dropwing dragonflies. The Black Pennant very rarely seems to settle, but at least it does hover frequently! It is not an easy dragonfly to photograph at all. As we were leaving the site we also saw a Cardinal nectaring on a giant thistle, and a very handsome Swallowtail.

Another small lake was our next stop. The target here was Spotted Darter, but as this year is a surprisingly late season in Bulgaria, following lots of bad weather earlier in the year, we were probably too early for this species. There were many Red-veined Darters, however.

Our picnic spot today was a return to the site where we had seen the Yellow-banded Skipper two days before. This time, the weather was perfect, and butterfly activity was very evident right from the start, with many unusual blues, skippers and grayling species seen. Highlights were The Hermit, Large, Anomalous, Eastern Baton and Meleager's Blues, and what was almost certainly a Delatin's Grayling. In addition to the butterflies, both Balkan and Sombre Goldenrings were seen, along with yet more Spurge Hawk-moth larvae, and two Lizard Orchids.

Reluctantly, we eventually moved on to our final stop of the tour. Here, we were hoping to find Large Copper butterflies. Unfortunately, the rain had now returned, but we did get a short break while we were searching. Lesser Fiery Coppers were seen, along with another Balkan Predatory Bush-cricket, but the Large Coppers were not to be found this year. An Eastern Bath White did show well, however, just before we left the site.

Day 9

Saturday 27th June

With our flights back to the UK early in the afternoon, there wasn't time for any stops on the return to the airport. However, before breakfast several of us enjoyed the treat of more views of the Golden Orioles in the local meadow. While waiting for the orioles, we also saw very good numbers of Alpine Swifts chasing each other, looking as though they were really enjoying themselves.

On the return drive, more birds were seen, including many White Storks, some Red-backed Shrikes and, as we entered the outskirts of Sofia, even larger groups of Alpine Swift.

Once again, Bulgaria had produced many wildlife highlights. The diversity here is vast, helped by the low use of pesticides: we hoped that this will remain the case for many years to come.

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Species lists

Damselflies & dragonflies

		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Odalisque	<i>Epallage fatime</i>		✓								
Robust Spreadwing	<i>Lestes dryas</i>			✓	✓						
Migrant Spreadwing	<i>Lestes barbarus</i>			✓	✓						
Dark Spreadwing	<i>Lestes macrostigma</i>				✓						
Eastern Willow Spreadwing	<i>Chalcolestes parvidens</i>		✓		✓						
Common Winter Damsel	<i>Sympecma fusca</i>	✓		✓							
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Small Bluetail	<i>Ischnura pumilio</i>			✓				✓	✓		
Common Bluet	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>			✓					✓		
Variable Bluet	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	✓									
Azure Bluet	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Ornate Bluet	<i>Coenagrion ornatum</i>	✓									
Dainty Bluet	<i>Coenagrion scitulum</i>			✓	✓				✓		
Spearhead Bluet	<i>Coenagrion hastulatum</i>				✓						
Large Redeye	<i>Erythromma najas</i>	✓			✓						
Small Redeye	<i>Erythromma viridulum</i>			✓	✓				✓		
Blue-eye	<i>Erythromma lindenii</i>			✓	✓						
Large Red Damsel	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>				✓						
Blue Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Blue-eyed Hawker	<i>Aeshna affinis</i>		✓					✓			
Green-eyed Hawker	<i>Aeshna isoceles</i>	✓			✓						
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓		
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>	✓									
Eastern Spectre	<i>Caliaeschna microstigma</i>		✓	✓			✓				
Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Bladetail	<i>Lindenia tetraphylla</i>							✓	✓		
Balkan Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster heros</i>						✓	✓	✓		
Turkish Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster picta</i>		✓	✓							
Sombre Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster bidentata</i>					✓			✓		
Blue-eyed Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster insignis</i>			✓							
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>	✓			✓						
Balkan Emerald	<i>Somatochlora meridionalis</i>			✓	✓						
Bulgarian Emerald	<i>Somatochlora borisi</i>		✓								
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>				✓						
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		✓	✓							
Blue Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓		
Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓			
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>			✓				✓			

		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>							✓	✓		
Black Pennant	<i>Selysiothemis nigra</i>								✓		

Butterflies

L=larva		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓		
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓					✓		
Eastern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cerisy</i>		✓		✓		✓				
Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>					✓					
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓		
Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>								✓		
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>			✓	✓						
Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>				✓						
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>		✓	✓			✓				
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>					✓	✓				
Common Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	✓			✓		✓				
Yellow-banded Skipper	<i>Pyrgus sidae</i>						✓		✓		
Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cinarae</i>						✓		✓		
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Common Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓		
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	✓		✓					✓		
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Southern Small White	<i>Pieris mannii</i>						✓				
Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>								✓		
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>			✓		✓					
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>					✓					
Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>		✓		✓						
Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>								✓		
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>				✓						
Balkan Copper	<i>Lycaena candens</i>					✓					
Grecian Copper	<i>Lycaena ottomana</i>			✓							
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓		
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena vigaureae</i>				✓	✓					
Black Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium pruni</i>	✓					✓				
Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>								✓		
Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓		
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>		✓			✓					
Large Blue	<i>Phengaris arion</i>								✓		
Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>	✓							✓		

L=larva		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>					✓			✓		
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>					✓			✓		
Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>								✓		
Balkan Zephyr Blue	<i>Kretania sephirus</i>		✓								
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>					✓					
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓		
Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>						✓				
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	✓	✓						✓		
Meleager's Blue	<i>Polyommatus daphnis</i>								✓		
Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>				✓	✓					
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus admetus</i>								✓		
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓		
Poplar Admiral	<i>Limenitis populi</i>					✓					
White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>			✓							
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Twin-spot Fritillary	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>						✓				
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>		✓		✓						
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>								✓		
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>					✓					
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>					✓					
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓		
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	✓				✓					
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>		✓		✓	✓					
Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>			✓	✓						
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>					✓					
Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>			✓			✓				
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Eastern Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea ornata</i>				✓						
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>					✓					
Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>					L			✓		
Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>		✓						✓		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		
Eastern Large Heath	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>				✓	✓					
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>					✓					
Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>		✓		✓						
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>					✓					
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>						✓				
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Common Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>								✓		
Common Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>						✓		✓		
Delattin's Grayling	<i>Hipparchia volgensis</i>								✓		
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
The Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>								✓		

L=larva		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>				✓	✓					

Moths

L=larva		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
a clothes moth	<i>Euplocamus ophica</i>			✓							
Meadow Neb	<i>Metzneria metzneriella</i>					✓					
Red Mompha	<i>Mompha locupletella</i>					✓					
Marbled Orchard Tortrix	<i>Hedya nubiferana</i>				✓						
Arched Marble	<i>Olethreutes arcuella</i>					✓					
Black-bordered Piercer	<i>Pammene argyrana</i>					✓					
Forester	<i>Adscita statices</i>	✓									
Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
a crambid	<i>Synaphe moldavica</i>	✓							✓		
a crambid	<i>Eurrhysis pollinalis</i>	✓									
Wavy-barred Sable	<i>Pyrausta nigrata</i>								✓		
The Pygmy	<i>Thyris fenestrella</i>								✓		
White-spotted Sable	<i>Anania funebris</i>			✓							
Rusty-dot Pearl	<i>Udea ferrugalis</i>					✓					
Starry Pearl	<i>Cynaeda dentalis</i>			✓							
a crambid	<i>Holoscolia huebneri</i>		✓								
a china-mark	<i>Acentropinae</i> sp.		✓								
Pine Tree Lappet	<i>Dendrolimus pini</i>				✓						
Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth	<i>Hemaris fuciformis</i>						✓				
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>			✓	✓	✓					
Spurge Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>				L			L	L		
Striped Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>			✓							
Small Elephant Hawk-moth	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>		✓								
Bright Wave	<i>Idaea ochrata</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓		
Lewes Wave	<i>Scopula immorata</i>	✓				✓					
Lace Border	<i>Scopula ornata</i>								✓		
Silver-ground Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>								✓		
Yellow Shell	<i>Camptogramma bilineata</i>						✓				
Spruce Carpet	<i>Thera britannica</i>					✓					
Chimney Sweeper	<i>Odezia atrata</i>	✓				✓					
Netted Pug	<i>Eupithecia venosata</i>					✓					
a treble-bar	<i>Aplocera</i> sp.		✓			✓					
Latticed Heath	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>				✓	✓					
Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>					✓	✓				
Canary-shouldered Thorn	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>			✓							
Willow Beauty	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>			✓							
Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>					✓					
Black-veined Moth	<i>Siona lineata</i>				✓	✓	✓				
Alpine Prominent	<i>Rhegmatofila alpina</i>				✓						
Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>		✓								
Clouded Buff	<i>Diacrisia sannio</i>					✓					
Wood Tiger	<i>Parasemia plantaginis</i>					✓	✓				

L=larva		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>				✓						
Feathered Footman	<i>Coscinia striata</i>				✓						
Nine-spotted	<i>Amata phegea</i>			✓			✓		✓		
Scarce Footman	<i>Eilema complana</i>		✓								
Scarce Blackneck	<i>Lygephila craccae</i>								✓		
Red Underwing	<i>Catocala nupta</i>										
Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>			✓		✓					
Mother Shipton	<i>Callistege mi</i>						✓				
Geometrician	<i>Grammodes stolidia</i>						✓				
Burnished Brass	<i>Diachrysia chrysitis</i>		✓								
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	✓			✓	✓					
Pale Shoulder	<i>Acontia lucida</i>		✓								
Shark	<i>Cucullia umbratica</i>					✓					
Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>		✓	✓							
Vine's Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>			✓							
Treble Lines	<i>Charanyca trigrammica</i>					✓					
Brown Rustic	<i>Rusina ferruginea</i>					✓					
Bird's Wing	<i>Dypterygia scabriuscula</i>		✓								
Angle Shades	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>		✓								
Clouded-bordered Brindle	<i>Apamea crenata</i>					✓					
Marbled Minor	<i>Oligia strigilis</i>		✓								
Feathered ear	<i>Pachetra sagittigera</i>					✓					
Broom Moth	<i>Ceramica pisi</i>					✓					
Shears	<i>Hada plebeja</i>		✓								
Pale-shouldered Cloud	<i>Chloantha hyperici</i>				✓						
Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Leucania comma</i>		✓								
Pearly Underwing	<i>Peridroma saucia</i>		✓								
Light Feathered Rustic	<i>Agrotis cinerea</i>					✓					

Other invertebrates

		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Alpine Dark Bush-cricket	<i>Pholidoptera aptera</i>					✓					
Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>		✓								
Wart-biter	<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>							✓			
Balkan Predatory Bush-cricket	<i>Saga natoliae</i>							✓	✓		
Bright-bellied Bush-cricket	<i>Poecilimon thoracicus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
Brunner's Bright Bush-cricket	<i>Poecilimon brunneri</i>			✓							
Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket	<i>Bradyporus dasypos</i>			✓							
Fasciated Conehead Mantid	<i>Empusa fasciata</i>			✓							
Mottled-winged Ant Lion	<i>Palpares libelloides</i>							✓			
Dark-shouldered Shield-bug	<i>Carpocoris purpureipennis</i>	✓									
Satin Bug	<i>Triatoma sanguisuga</i>				✓	✓					
Turbine Cylindrical Weevil	<i>Larinus turbinatus</i>		✓								
Black-banded Bee-fly	<i>Hemipenthes morio</i>		✓								
Mud-dauber Wasp	<i>Sceliphron destillatorium</i>			✓							
Macaronius Owlfly	<i>Libelloides macaronius</i>			✓							
a wasp spider	<i>Argiope</i> sp.		✓								

Birds (H=heard only)

I=introduced		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓						✓			
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>							✓			
Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		✓								
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymartus melba</i>							✓	✓	✓	
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Feral Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia 'domestica'</i>	✓									
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>						✓	✓	✓		
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		H	H				✓	✓		
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓								
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓									
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓					✓			
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>							✓			
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			✓				✓			
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				✓			✓	✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>							✓			
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>			✓	✓			✓			
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>							✓			
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓		
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>							✓			
Little Bittern	<i>Botaurus minutus</i>	✓									
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		✓		✓			✓			
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓		
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>							✓			
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>							✓	✓		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>							✓	✓		
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>							✓			
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>							✓			
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>								✓		
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		✓	✓							
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>							✓			
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		✓			✓					
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		?								
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Tachyspiza brevipes</i>							✓			
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		✓								
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>		✓	✓							
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>						✓	✓	✓		
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>			✓							
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>								✓		
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		H	H	H						
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓			
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>		✓						✓		

I=introduced		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓								
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>			✓				✓			
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>			✓							
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			✓	✓		✓				
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				✓						
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓		
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓						✓	✓		
Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonorae</i>							✓			
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>			✓	✓						
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			✓					✓		
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		✓	✓					✓		
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>		✓								
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓		
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓					✓	✓		
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>		✓								
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>							✓			
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>					✓					
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>								✓		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓		
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>							✓			
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				✓						
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓							
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓					✓		
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>							✓			
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
European Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>								✓		
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>								✓		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		H					H	H		
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓		
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	✓	✓						H		
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			✓	✓						
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>					✓					
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					✓					
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>								H	✓	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			✓				✓	✓		
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>					✓					
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>									✓	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓							
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓		
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>								✓		

I=introduced		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		✓								
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>							✓			
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H		✓	✓			H			
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓			✓					
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓				✓				
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		✓			✓					
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>			✓			✓				
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓								
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓									
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓								
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓			✓				✓		
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>				✓	✓					
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓					✓	✓		
Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>					✓		✓			

Mammals

I=introduced		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>							✓			
Western Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>				✓		✓				
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					✓					

Amphibians & reptiles

		June 2026									
Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
Alpine Newt	<i>Ichthyosaura alpestris</i>					✓					
Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>								✓		
Eastern Tree Frog	<i>Hyla orientalis</i>			✓							
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>								✓		
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓		
Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>			✓							
Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>				✓		✓		✓		
Balkan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis tauricus</i>					✓			✓		
Eastern Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>			✓							
Viperine Snake	<i>Natrix maura</i>		✓								
Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>						✓				
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>			✓							
Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>			✓							